## 8. Election of members to the Road Board

**Mr. President :** Now three members are required for the Road Board and only three nominations have been received. These are (1) Mr. Ittiera Ambooken proposed by Mr. C. V. Iyyu and seconded by Mr. Mohamed Ayoob Sait (2) Mr. T. K. Kunjayyappan proposed by Mr. K. T. Achuthan and seconded by Mr. K. Kochukuttan and (3) Mr. K. C. Mayankutty Mather proposed by Mr. P. K. Dewer and seconded by Mr. C. U. Narayanan. So these members are declared duly elected to the Road Board.

## 9. Reference from the Chair on the demise of His Highness Sree Kerala Varma, the Maharaja of Cochin

**Mr. President :** Now we come to the reference on the demise of His Highness Sree Kerala Varma, the Maharaja of Cochin. It is with deep sorrow that I refer to the demise of His Highness, the late Maharaja. He was a great statesman-ruler. The period of His Highness' reign was an epoch-making one. It was he who granted practically full responsible Government to the people, and announced its completion in the very near future. This very Assembly that has gathered here is the best proof of his liberal outlook and progressive views. The idea of a united Kerala was given great impetus by His Highness, which earned for him the admiration of the whole of India. Among the Princes of India, His Highness was the first to agree to accede to the Indian Union. In the Princely Order of India, He shone as a great luminary. In so many ways, under him our State earned the reputation of being one of the best and most progressive among Indian States.

His personality had a charm and suavity of its own. Simple and unassuming, His Highness was easily accessible to all. The people loved him and the people mourn for so good and great a Ruler. May His soul rest in peace.

**Mr. E. Ikkanda Warrier** *(Prime Minister):* Mr. President, Sir, I would like to associate myself wholeheartedly with the sentiments you have so felicitously expressed. His Highness Sri Kerala Varma, whose sad demise we are bemoaning, was one of the most liberal minded Rulers of our State.

It was during His Highness's regime that the State witnessed the erection of the superstructure of full responsible Government on the foundations laid down by his predecessors. Almost all the important departments of Government were transferred to Ministerial control and even the few that had not been formally transferred were left in the hands of a popular Minister. His Highness also announced that full responsible Government with complete transfer of all departments of administration, except Devaswams and Palaces, would be made over to Ministers immediately after the general elections based on adult franchise. This noble idea of His Highness of a Government in complete charge of elected Ministers is an accomplished fact today.

It is also worthy of mention in this connection that His Highness with his clear vision of the historic role of the past of Kerala gave an impetus to the idea of Aikya Kerala by his notable pronouncements on more than one occasion. It is indeed a matter for sincere regret that His Highness did not live to see the fulfilment of his cherished dream in this direction.

It was again left to His Highness to issue a Proclamation throwing open almost all Hindu temples of the State to all sections of the Hindus. It was a reform long overdue for which the reformist section of the Hindus had been clamouring.

Almost from times immemorial, it has been the tradition with the Rulers of Cochin to be constitutionally-minded; but it was left to His Highness Sri Kerala Varma to be its first Constitutional Ruler. Under His Highness's leadership, our State was the first to accede to the Indian Union, and that at a stage when Rulers of most other States were hesitant and wavering.

From all points of view, therefore, it is a great loss that we have sustained in His Highness' demise, and I am sure that for ages to come his will be a name that will be gratefully cherished in the recollections of our people.

May His Highness' soul rest in peace.

**Dr. C. L. Joseph** *(Irinjalakkuda):* I endorse all the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister.

മിസ്റ്റർ കോടനാട്ട് നാരായണൻ നമ്പൂതിരിപ്പാട്: സർ, എന്റെ സ്വന്തം നിലക്കും ഞാൻ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട പാർട്ടിയുടെ പ്രതിനിധിയെന്നനിലക്കും ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ എനിക്കുകൂടി രണ്ടു വാക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ള ഔത്സുക്യമുണ്ട്. വാസ്തവത്തിൽ പൂർണ്ണാധികാരം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള

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*Mr. Kodanat Narayanan Nambuthiripad :

ആദ്യത്തെ ഈ അസംബ്ലിയിലെ മെമ്പർമാരായ നാം ഒന്നാമതായി കടപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതു് നാടുനീങ്ങിയ വലിയതമ്പുരാൻ തിരുമേനിയോടു മാത്രമാണു്. കുറെനാളായി നാട്ടുകാരെ ഭരണത്തിൽ പങ്കുകൊള്ളിക്കുക എന്ന തത്വം അംഗീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടുകൾ ഒഴികെയുള്ള മറെറല്ലാ അധികാരങ്ങളും മന്ത്രിമാരുടെ ഭരണത്തിനു വിട്ടുകൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നതു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ കാലത്തുമാത്രമാണു്. പ്രധാനമന്ത്രി പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതുപോലെ ഇൻഡ്യയിലെ മറെറ പല രാജാക്കന്മാരും അവരുടെ അധികാരങ്ങളെപ്പററി സങ്കോചത്തോടുകൂടിയിരുന്നകാലത്തു് എത്രയും ധീരമായി ആവക അവകാശങ്ങളെയൊക്കെ ജനപ്രതിനിധികൾക്കു വിട്ടുകൊടുത്ത ഒററ മഹാരാജാവു് ഇദ്ദേഹമാണെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു്. ആ നിലക്കും നാം നാടുനീങ്ങിയ വലിയ തമ്പുരാനോടു് ഒന്നാമതായി കടപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിനെല്ലാം പുറമെ ക്ഷേത്രപ്രവേശനം മുതലായ പലേ പ്രോഗ്രസ്സീവായിട്ടുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങളും അദ്ദേഹം നടപ്പാക്കീട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഏതു നിലയിലും ഈ അസംബ്ലി നിലനില്ക്കുന്നിടത്തോളംകാലം അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ പേർ വളരെ ബഹുമാനത്തോടുകൂടി എന്നും സ്മരിക്കപ്പെടുമെന്നുള്ളതായിട്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള മഹാരാജാവിന്റെ ആത്മാവിനു നിത്യശാന്തിക്കായി ഞാൻ പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

*All the Members of the House stood up for a minute in memory of His Highness the late Maharaja and the House was adjourned at 2-30 p.m.*

*The House rose at 2-30 p.m.*

N. I. OUSEPH
*Secretary*

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